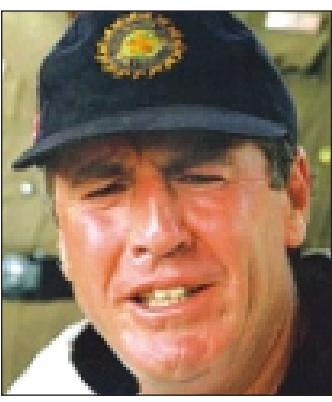




Did U Know?

The International Badminton Federation (IBF) headquarters were established in Gloucestershire, England in 1934.



John Wright
(Former Indian cricket coach)

"I have enjoyed some tremendous battles with Australia over the years as player and coach, so this is another outstanding opportunity to pit my wits and skills against them." After being named coach of the Rest of the World team in the Super Series against Australia.

What to WATCH

Zimbabwe vs New Zealand
First ODI
Live at 1:30 pm
Sportscentre
Live at 10:00 pm
English Premier Football League
Chelsea vs West Bromwich
Live at 12:40 am (Thursday)
STAR Sports
English Premier Football League
Arsenal vs Fulham
Live at 12:40 am (Thursday)

Sri Lanka name full-strength squads

AFP, Colombo

Veteran batsman Marvan Atapattu will lead full-strength Sri Lankan squads in the upcoming home one-day and Test series against Bangladesh, it was announced here on Tuesday.

"We are not taking the opposition lightly as you cannot take any chances in international cricket," said chairman of selectors Lalith Kaluperuma.

SQUADS

ONE-DAY: Marvan Atapattu (captain), Sanath Jayasuriya, Upul Tharanga, Kumar Sangakkara, Mahela Jayawardene, Russell Arnold, Tillakaratne Dilshan, Chaminda Vaas, Upul Chandana, Farveez Maharoof, Muttiah Muralitharan, Avishka Gunawardene, Dilhara Fernando, Diliha Lokuhettige, Thilan Samaraweera. **TEST:** Marvan Atapattu (captain), Sanath Jayasuriya, Kumar Sangakkara, Mahela Jayawardene, Thilan Samaraweera, Tillakaratne Dilshan, Chaminda Vaas, Farveez Maharoof, Rangana Herath, Muttiah Muralitharan, Lasith Malinga, Russell Arnold, Gayan Wijekoon, Dilhara Fernando, Shantha Kalavithigoda.

INTER-VARSITY AQUATIC DU top the table

SPORTS REPORTER

Hosts Dhaka University emerged champions in the inter-university swimming and water-polo championships which concluded yesterday.

The DU finished with eight gold medals including the water-polo honours, three silver and one bronze while Rajshahi were runners-up with a haul of four gold, five silver and four bronze medals.

The Islamic University were the only other team to win gold and clinched third place with 2-4-1.

Professor AFM Yusuf Haider, acting VC of Dhaka University, gave away prizes among the winners.

Selector of ICC World XI Richard Hadlee (R) talks to the side's coach John Wright during the announcement of the squads for the Super Series against Australia in Melbourne on Tuesday.

Tigers now want more

Bangladesh leave for Sri Lanka today

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh embark on their second full series in Sri Lanka today with their mind set not only on improving but winning one or two matches.

Habibul Bashar's men having won at least one match in the previous three one-day series against India, Zimbabwe and Australia, the possibility of similar success can not be ruled out despite the fact that the Lankans are a tough nut to crack in their own den.

"We are trying to make winning a habit so that people can say we are making upsets. Our target is to reduce the gap between wins," said Tigers skipper Bashar at a press conference prior to their departure on Tuesday.

Bangladesh will play three ODIs and two Tests in the month long trip.

"Performing consistently is still our target. Not just winning one or two matches, we want to do it regularly. We have to improve individually as well as a team. We lost four one-dayers after winning one. We will try to win one or two here," Bashar hoped.

"We have won at least one match in the last three series. If we can't do it in Sri Lanka it will be considered as a setback. But if we can make them sweat, that would confirm we are in the right direction.

"The Lankans are definitely stronger than us in all three departments. Still, we can be a better fielding side," said the premier batsman of the country while assessing the strength of the two sides.

Asked about the new one-day rules to be adopted in the series,

Bashar admitted that it would be an additional task for him.

"A captain always has to think but now I have to do the difficult task of thinking instantly. We will get the chance to apply those rules in the practice match. The new rules are made to make limited-overs cricket more exciting. It is as new to us as for the Lankans. Both teams are going to face similar problems, especially for field restrictions.

Super-sub might be more helpful to us. Sometimes we are forced to play with four bowlers to strengthen the batting. We don't have to compromise with this any more."

Coach Dav Whatmore also admitted that the captain will have to cope with the situation.

"We have had a lot of discussions about the new one-day rules. We haven't had the opportunity to play but that's going to happen during the practice game. We have been theorising all sorts of permutations and combinations about replacement players and field restrictions but I think, would be harder for the captain because he has to take decisions in the field," the 51-year-old Australian said.

Happy with the preparation during the monsoon, Whatmore said that it was as good as it could have been because of the new facilities available at Mirpur.

"When I first came here, we had to leave for Australia two weeks earlier for match practice and training due to inclement weather. But not this time.

Comparing Bangladesh's last tour in England and the coming trip to Sri Lanka, Whatmore said the conditions are different.

"The two teams are also different. What we have to do is to progress in the direction that we are, to realise more games and win more along the way. We had three very good wins recently, the December win against India, in June against Australia in Cardiff and the history making series victory against Zimbabwe at home," he said.

"I am not thinking about winning every game but one or two extra wins along the way will confirm that we are in the right direction. Yes, we are capable of beating Sri Lanka. But I also understand and respect the opposition in their home conditions.

"Every time we pick a new player, we are strengthening the team. We do not play our game for any other reason but to win. And if we don't win our objective is to make sure the opposition plays really hard," said the ex-Sri Lanka coach adding that he would try to use his previous

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SCHEDULE

Date	Match	Venue
Aug 28	1-Day practice match	Moratuwa
Aug 31	First ODI	SSC Colombo
Sept 2	Second ODI (D/N)	RPS Colombo
Sept 4	Third ODI (D/N)	RPS Colombo
Sept 7-9	3-day practice match	CCC Colombo
Sept 12-16	First Test	RPS Colombo
Sept 20-24	Second Test	P Sara Colombo



Bangladesh coach Dav Whatmore takes questions from reporters during a press conference at a city hotel on Tuesday. On the left is captain Habibul Bashar.

BHF to take Qamar to task

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Hockey Federation (BHF) will lodge an official complaint to the International Hockey Federation (FIH) against Pakistani coach Qamar Ibrahim and his colleague Ersheed Haider.

Former Pakistani international Qamar and BHF's trainer Haider left Dhaka last week without notifying the federation in the middle of a two-year contract.

The BHF, however, will first issue Qamar a show-cause notice to explain for his vanishing act, it was decided at an executive meeting of the BHF yesterday.

It also directed its member Kamru Islam Kismat to apologise for his recent misbehaviour with a sports journalist.

U-17 team aims for hattrick

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Under-17 cricket team will look to post their third win in a row when they take on minnows Malaysia today in the International Golden Hope Challenge tournament in Kuala Lumpur.

Bangladesh, who crushed the hosts by 198 runs in their first match, earned an exciting 13-run victory in their second match against Sri Lanka on Monday.

A four-wicket haul by Rumon helped Bangladesh restrict the Lankan youths to just 94 while defending a paltry 107-run total at the Bayuemas Oval.

Amit scored highest 43 in the Bangladesh innings that lasted 36.1 overs. Sri Lankan bowler Shiwanka captured three wickets for 25.

Rumon claimed 4-16 while vice-captain Shuvo and skipper Saqib each chipped in with two wickets for 17 and 22 runs respectively.

South African skippers



AFP, Melbourne

South Africans Graeme Smith and Shaun Pollock will lead the World Test and one-day teams in the Super Series in Australia in October, the International Cricket Council (ICC) announced here Tuesday.

Smith will lead the ICC World XI in the six-day Test against the Australians at the Sydney Cricket Ground from October 14-19, while Pollock will skipper the international team for three one-dayers against Australia at Melbourne's Docklands stadium on October 5, 7 and 9.

Selectors chose the greatest contemporary cricketers in the two world teams, including England's Andrew Flintoff, West Indies' Brian Lara, South Africa's Jacques Kallis, India's Sachin Tendulkar, Sri Lanka's Muttiah Muralitharan, Steve Harmison of England and Pakistan's Shoaib Akhtar.

The squads also include outstanding world players: India's Virender Sehwag, Kevin Pietersen of England, New Zealand's Daniel Vettori, Kumar Sangakkara of Sri Lanka and South Africa's Mark Boucher.

India's Rahul Dravid will be Smith's vice-captain in the Test squad and Tendulkar will be Pollock's deputy in the ODI squad.

ICC chief executive Malcolm Speed said selectors had picked two squads of superb players who would test Australia to the limit.

Former Indian coach John Wright will coach the ICC World XI teams, with Goolam Rajah of South Africa acting as team manager and England's Kirk Russell the team physiotherapist.

Those omitted from the Test squad were Michael Vaughan, Anil Kumble, Inzamam-ul-Haq, Abdul Razzaq, Chris Gayle, Steve Harmison and Brendon McCullum.

While among those to miss out in the ODI squad were Inzamam-ul-Haq, Rahul Dravid, Abdul Razzaq, Chris Gayle, Steve Harmison and Brendon McCullum.

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